

FAQ

Who can apply to these programs?

If you are eligible according to the following categories, then we encourage you to apply!

- Summer of Service
 - Must be entering 7th, 8th, or 9th grade in Fall 2017
- Youth Engaged in Service
 - Must be between the ages of 13-18 as of July 10th, 2017
 - Must be eligible to attend a Seattle public school
 - *If you are unsure, use [Seattle School's "Address Lookup Tool"](#)*
- Student Teen Employment Preparation
 - Must be between the ages of 14-19 as of July 10th, 2017
 - Must be eligible to attend a Seattle public school
 - *If you are unsure, use [Seattle School's "Address Lookup Tool"](#)*

Please note that all participants must have a social security number or tax identification number in order to receive a stipend at the end of the program. However, participants who do not have a social security or tax identification number are encouraged to apply for a fun summer experience that will build their resume and may fulfill the high school graduation requirement (please check with your school for confirmation).

Are high school students in transition programs eligible to apply?

Yes, all high school students up to age 21 are encouraged to apply for STEP or YES Programs. Our programs are inclusive for youth of all abilities.

How are applicant selected for the programs?

- SOS: Participants are selected on a first-come, first-served basis. We strongly recommend submitting your application before the deadline
- YES: We place as many youth as we have positions for. The amount of positions that we are able to offer changes from year to year. A complete application as well as attending the informational interview are **required** for consideration. We encourage you to apply early.
- STEP: There is a lottery process of admissions into the STEP program. An equal amount of applicants will be selected from both lottery pools.
50% of positions will be filled by applicants who meet general eligibility requirements (have submitted a completed application, are within the required age range, and are eligible to attend a Seattle Public School).
The other 50% of positions will be filled by applicants who are of underserved populations including but not limited to:
 - Low income

- Being in foster/kinship care
- Immigrants or refugees
- LGBTQ+
- Homeless
- Having special needs
- Participating in Youth Violence Prevention
- Those who are referred by youth workers

If you identify as belonging to any of these groups, please let us know in the Demographic Survey section of the application.

Can I earn community service hours towards my high school graduation requirement?

Yes, you can earn community service hours for your time with YES, STEP, or SOS. Participants in **all** programs should check with school administrators to confirm their credit.

- SOS: Students can earn up to 15 service hours for program participation in the summer before 9th grade.
- STEP: **Some schools will not accept service hours for STEP because of the larger stipend that participants receive.** Please be sure to check with your school to see if your hours will count towards the graduation requirement.
- YES: 60 hours of your 120 service hours can be used for your high school's community service requirement.

If I don't finish 120 hours of service, can I earn a partial stipend?

No, there are no partial stipends awarded. All participants must complete all 120 hours of service time to receive their full stipend.

Can I use the same application if I am applying to STEP and YES?

You need to complete two separate applications for each program, but you may use one of the same recommendation forms for each application. The STEP application requires two recommendations and the YES application requires one. Make a copy of the form to include with each application.

Is transportation provided?

Students are responsible for their own transportation to the team meeting location. Bus tokens are available for students who may need them.

Where will the team meet every day?

The meeting location will be assigned at orientation, and this is where the team will meet for every session even if there is a field trip or workshop planned at another site.

Is lunch provided?

Lunch is not provided. Students should come prepared with food, water, and any additional items that they might need for the day, such as sunscreen.